(d) whether Government have any proposal regarding any other sub-caste of Nepali Castes to be included in list of Scheduled Caste?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) Proposals received from the concerned State Governments and Union Territory Administrations in regard to modifications in the lists of Scheduled Castes in respect of the State/Union Territory are processed in accordance with Modalities approved by Government of India. The criteria followed in regard to consideration of inclusion of a community as a Scheduled Caste are extreme social, educational and economic backwardness arising out of the traditional practice of untouchability. Further, any amendment in the list of Scheduled Castes can be done only by an Act of Parliament in view of Article 341 (2) of the Constitution.

(c) Damai (Nepali), Kami (Nepali), Lohar (Nepali), Majhi (Nepali) and Sarki (Nepali) communities have been specified as Scheduled Castes in relation to the State of Sikkim.

(d) No such proposal has been received.

Grants to NGOs

2885. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total grant/assistance given to NGOs for various purposes during the last three years;

(b) the names of such NGOs and the details of grant/assistance given to each during that period;

(c) whether any complaint has been received against any of these NGOs with regard to misappropriation of Government fund; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (d) Information is being collected.

Programmes for welfare of OBCs

2886. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the programmes directly concerning the welfare of OBCs in the National Common Minimum Programme;

(b) the programmes out of the above, which have been implemented by Government as on the 31st March, 2007, and

(c) what have been the achievements thereof?